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Government Publications

## ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK



### PROVISIONAL MASTER PLAN



DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS

HON. RENE BRUNELLE MINISTER

G.H.U. BAYLY DEPUTY MINISTER



# ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK PROVISIONAL MASTER PLAN

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CA20N LF. 68A46

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#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	(i)
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	1
Regional Setting	1
- Location and Description	1
- Population Centres	. 1
- Other Provincial Parks	1
- Private Parks	2
- Other Tourist Services	2
- Adjacent Land Use	2
- Access	3
Park Setting	3
- Topography	3
- Geology	4
- Bedrock and Soils -	5
- Climate	5
- Water	5
History	6
- Missionaries and the Fur Traders	7
- Water Route Exploration	7
- Timber	7
- Railways	8
- Algonquin Provincial Park	8
- Park Use	. 9
- Present Use	9
- Future Use	10
16	
PRESENT SITUATION	11
Park Development	11
- Roads	11
- Campsites	11
- Day Use	11
- Tourist Accommodation and Services	12
- Youth Camps	12



	- Interpretation	12
	- Administration	13
	- Water Recreation	13
	- Sanitary Services	14
	- Research	14
	- Other Agencies	14
	- Park Investment	15
	- Annual Operations	15
Da	rk Resources	15
ra	- Land	15
	- Fisheries	16
		16
	- Wildlife	16
	- Forestry	10
PURPOSE	AND OBJECTIVES	18
Pu	rpose	18
Ob	jectives	18
POLICY		18
Pa	rk Zoning	19
	- Multiple Use Zone	19
	Ml to M5	19
	M6	20
	- Primitive Zone	21
	Pl to P4	21
	- Recreation Zone	21
	RI to R6	22
	- Natural Zone	23
	N1 to N25	24
	- Historic Zone	-24
	H1 to H10	24
- Ge	eneral Policy Statements	24
	- Forestry	24
	- Roads	25
	- Motorboats on Boundary Lakes	25

Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2022 with funding from University of Toronto

	- Fish and Wildlife	26
	- Research	26
	- Snowmobiles	26
	- Aircraft	26
	- Military Exercises	27
	- Utility Lines	27
	- Structures	27
	- Insecticides	28
	- Mining	28
	- Leases, Licences of Occupation and Cottages on Private Land	28
	- Public Recreation Development	29
	- Park Interpretive Programme	30
	- Park Use	30
	- Sanitation	30
	- Park Boundary Changes	30
	- Archives	30
	- Canoe Route Place	30
	- Unattended Watercraft	30
	- Master Plan Revision	31
GENERAL D	EVELOPMENT PROGRAM	32
	- Camping Areas	32
	- Day Use Areas	32
	- Canoeing Areas	33
	- Roads	33
	- Park Interpretive Services	34
ALGONQUIN	PROVINCIAL PARK ZONING MAP	35

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## ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### REGIONAL SETTING

#### Location and Description

Algonquin Provincial Park lies in the northeastern corner of Southern Ontario between latitudes 45° 10° W and 46° 10° W and longitudes 77° 30° N and 79° 19° N. It stretches for 81 miles east and west and 70 miles north and south, and contains 2,910 square miles, covering 31 complete townships and 8 part townships. It is 160 miles from the provincial capital, Toronto, and 150 miles from the capital of Canada, Ottawa, via first-class highways. It is a highland area rising to a maximum of 1,900 ft. near Highway #60 in the southwest corner and sloping away in all directions. The western portion has an average elevation of about 1,400 ft. while in the east the average elevation approaches 900 ft. In the west much bedrock is exposed in rounded knobs and ridges, but the east is relatively level glacial till and sedimentary sands. Both precipitation and temperature variations are greater within the park than in surrounding areas.

#### Population Centres

The areas surrounding the Park are the most sparsely settled of southern Ontario. To the north are North Bay and Mattawa with a total population of 47,300 in 1966; to the west, Powassan, Huntsville and Bracebridge with a total of 15,200, along with the smaller communities of Trout Creek, South River, Sundridge, Burks Falls, Kearney, and Dwight with 7,400 people; to the south, Dorset, Haliburton, Whitney, Bancroft and Barrys Bay with 10,200; and to the east, Pembroke, Petawawa, Chalk River and Deep River with 34,400 people. There is a total of 114,500 people within 90 miles of the park gates.

#### Other Provincial Parks

Eight other provincial parks are located within 48 miles of the park gates and these contain 4,201 acres of land with 737 campsites.



#### Private Parks

Forty-nine private campgrounds in the same general area have an additional 2,762 acres of land with 2,595 tent and trailer campsites. Most of these areas have sand beaches and provide facilities for swimming, boating and fishing.

#### Other Tourist Services

In addition to the camping facilities around Algonquin Park, there are other establishments which serve visitors and local people. In the 14.5 miles along Highway 60 between Dwight and the West Gate, there are 36 commercial establishments including five gas stations, six motels and also cabins and lodges with a capacity for 824 guests.

On #35 Highway between Dorset and its junction with #60 Highway, there are 29 commercial businesses consisting of 3 hotels, 13 cabin groups and other ancillary services to accommodate 896 guests. In the east along Highway 60 between Aylen Lake and the East Gate there are 28 commercial establishments consisting of 2 motels and 10 cabin groups along with other essential businesses to accommodate 233 people. On Highway 127 between Maynooth and its junction with Highway 60, there are 1 hotel, 2 lodges and 11 cabin groups with accommodation for 345 in the area. These facilities can provide for a total of approximately 2,300 people within 30 miles of the park gates.

#### Adjacent Land Use

Concentrations of patented land are found around North Bay,
Pembroke and Huntsville where urban agricultural uses prevail.

In Haliburton there are many cottage sites.

The 140-square mile Petawawa Military Reserve, established in 1904, touches the east boundary. Permanent quarters house about 2,600 people. The Canadian Department of Rural Development and Forestry operates the Petawawa Forest Experimental Station on 38 square miles of the Military Reserve.



There is a buffer zone one mile in width around the park boundary. Sale and rental of land in this zone is now curtailed, but any lands patented before this policy was adopted remain.

#### Access

The main traffic arteries serving the Park are Highway 11 on the west, Highway 17 on the north and east, and Highways 60 and 62 on the south. 40.7 miles of Highway 60 are within the park boundaries. There are 41 roads leading from these highways into the park but only 14 of these are open to public vehicular travel. There is no regular bus service into or through the park but charters are available and tours are conducted twice weekly during July and August.

The main line of the Canadian National Railway from Ottawa to North Bay passes through the park roughly parallel to the east boundary. Stops are made or can be arranged at eight locations. There are three passenger trains per day going east to Ottawa and two trains going west to North Bay.

There are no commercial air terminals in the park. Air Canada has service to North Bay. Seven small local airports are established within 50 miles of the park. A turf airstrip is maintained at Lake of Two Rivers. Five sites are licenced under the Aeronautics Act for float aircraft. These supply fuel and oil. Three are open in summer only. No aircraft may land elsewhere in the park without permission from the Superintendent.

#### PARK SETTING

#### Topography

Two major physiographic regions occur within the park. The Precambrian Upland in the west is dotted with rock knobs and lake basins connected by a network of rivers and streams with the highest elevation of 1,900 feet near Highway 60 and ranging downward to 1,000 in the north.



The Ottawa Lowland in the east contains the Ottawa-Bonnechere series of downfaults in which glacial till and waterlaid sands have accumulated. The area is near the western edge
of the faults and abrupt changes in elevation occur with rock
promontories rising to altitudes of 900 feet above sea level.

#### Geology

The Algonquin Highlands, formed millions of years ago by pressures from within the earth, have resulted in some of the highest elevations in Southern Ontario. Faulting and glaciation have resulted in the Algonquin Park land form.

#### Faulting

The Ottawa-Bonnechere Graben, the only major bedrock dislocation in Southern Ontario, has a width of 35 miles between
the Coulonge scarp in Quebec and the Mount St. Patrick scarp
in Ontario. It extends northward into the park to Lake
Lavieille. The Ottawa River flows through part of this
depression, which may have been one of the outlets of glacial
Lake Algonquin. Three sub-fault scarps in the park are
associated with the Graben. They are the Deacon, Mount St.
Patrick and Hopefield scarps, running roughly parallel in a
northwest, southeast direction.

#### Glaciation

The effects of glaciation are everywhere evident in the park. The high peneplain of rounded granite outcrops stands as a remnant of mountains scoured away by at least four glaciers of the Pleistocene times. The last or Wisconsin almost obliterated traces of the earlier ones, and it was during the melting of this ice sheet that the 100,000 square mile Lake Algonquin was formed in the west and Lake Iroquois in the east. With the retreat of the ice, new drainage outlets were formed and both the lakes were drained, thus initiating the forerunners of our present Great Lakes. The glacial lakes gave rise to the deposits of soil in the valleys and to the level sand plains which are found in the Park.



#### Bedrock and Soils

The bedrock found in the park belongs to the Grenville series of Precambrian rocks, approximately one billion years old and among the youngest of the Precambrians.

The granitic origin of the soil accounts for its high acidity, leaching and infertile characteristics. It consists mainly of varying depths of silty sand and sandy loam to coarse to fine sands mostly found on the plains and in the valleys.

The soils are classified as podsols and brown podzolics, low in fertility and inclined to droughty conditions.

The Brent crater now lies within the park boundary in Deacon and Cameron townships. It covers 9,500 acres and contains Gilmour and Tecumseh Lakes. Investigations indicate that the crater was formed by a meteorite.

#### Climate

The climate is governed by a prevailing westerly wind, and elevation. Rainfall is higher on the west side than on the east due to the proximity of Georgian Bay. The lowest mean temperatures, the shortest growing season and the lowest recorded temperature for all of Southern Ontario are experienced here. Weather stations are located at four sites and rainfall is recorded at an additional 4 sites.

The lakes are frozen over for an average of 150 days per year, with freeze-up occuring usually in the last week of November and break-up in the last week of April.

#### Water

There are 19 river systems in the park, the largest being the Petawawa draining 1,572 square miles and with a mean flow of 1,630 cubic feet per second (c.f.s.). Its tributaries are the Nipissing and Barron. The second largest is the Madawaska with a flow of 3,260 c.f.s. at its mouth and it is joined by the York. The Bonnechere has a mean flow of 615 c.f.s. The others are much smaller.



Dams were originally built by logging companies to flush logs downstream. Some remain in good condition but others are in ruins. The Department of Public Works has rebuilt a large number of these dams. Nine such dams influencing the water flow to the Muskoka Lakes are controlled by that department. An additional 18, mainly on rivers flowing east, are controlled by the Department of Lands and Forests.

There are over 4,300 lakes and streams with just over 1,000 named on 1:50,000 mapsheets or Map 47A.

#### HISTORY

The history of the park can be summarized into seven periods:-

> The Indians and early explorers - up to 1615 The missionaries and fur traders - 1615-1880 Water route exploration 1819-1853 Lumber Trade 1840-present 1894-present Railways Summer Resorts 1900-present Algonquin Provincial Park 1893-present

The name "Algonquin" is derived from the name of one of the largest of early Canadian Indian families. The area was a hunting ground for the nomadic people of the tribe, who lived off the land and were expert builders of canoes to travel the roughest waters of the park. Traces of their habitation have been found at nine sites. According to Dr. C.H.D. Clarke, the site at Rosebary Lake was probably active about 6,000 years ago and may have been the site of a pigment mine. B.M. Mitchell believes that the Radiant Lake site was in use for at least 4,000 years.

Etienne Brûlé was likely the first white man to visit the Park area about 1608. Nicholas Vigneau is reported to have travelled there at about the same time and these earlier travels may have encouraged Champlain's explorations in 1612 and 1615.

6



#### Missionaries and the Fur Traders

By the early 1600's, Recollect Fathers were in contact with the Algonquins and "The Jesuit Relations" show that the St. Elizabeth Mission was started in 1640 on the north end of Lake Couchiching, and in 1641 the Church of St. Esprit on Lake Nipissing was established to serve the Indians of the park area.

There is evidence that temporary or seasonal trading posts in the park area were occupied in some seasons. By the beginning of the 19th century Algonquin furs could go north to the posts on Lake Nipissing, west through the Muskoka Lakes to Penetang, or east down the Madawaska and Bonnechere rivers to the Ottawa.

#### Water Route Exploration

During the period between 1818 and 1853 at least ten explorers travelled the rivers in the park area. Catty and Briscoe investigated a canal route from the Ottawa to Georgian Bay which proved unsatisfactory. Subsequent explorations were primarily concerned with settlement potential.

#### Timber

Much of Algonquin Park was covered by the pine forests of the Ottawa Valley and thus played a part in the square timber era which lasted until the end of the 19th century when square timber gave way to sawn lumber. Names such as McLachlin Brothers, Gillies Brothers and J.R. Booth appeared in the square timber days. Waterways were used for transportation and systems of dams, chutes and sluices were built, some of which remain in the park today. Tote roads to carry men and supplies, as well as depots and storage places, were built in the 1850's, and farms were cleared, some of them within the park.



#### Railways

The Ottawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound Railway was completed in 1897, and the southwest portion of the park came under the axe and saw. Lumber companies built their own spur lines which were torn up after the pine was removed. The present Opeongo Road is partly along one of these old spurs. A village was built at Canoe Lake and accommodated about 500 people, but the venture bankrupted the company. The existence of the railway led to the construction of numerous lodges in the park. Of these only Bartlett, Kish Kaduk, Killarney, and Arowhon Pines Lodges still operate. The railway service in the park was discontinued in 1959.

In 1915 the Canadian Northern Railway was built across the northeast side of the park and has since become part of the Canadian National Railway system.

#### Algonquin Provincial Park

The park was established largely on the advice of

Alexander Kirkwood and a commission set up as a result of his

proposals. The objectives were: 1) To preserve the headwaters of the park river systems, 2) To preserve the native

forests, 3) To protect birds, fish, game and furbearing

animals, 4) To provide an area for forest experimentation,

5) To serve as a "health resort and pleasure ground for the

benefit, advantage and enjoyment of the people of the Province".

The establishment of the park was supported by the lumber

companies who were permitted to continue operations. The

poaching of wildlife became a serious and continuing problem.

In 1893, 1,466 square miles covering 18 townships was set aside for the park and in 1894, three additional townships and two half townships were added. Since that date, a number of additions have brought the total area to 2,910 square miles.

In 1935, #60 Highway was completed through the southwest corner of the park. In the same year the Canada Department of Transport made an emergency landing strip at Lake of Two



Rivers. A permanent Fisheries Laboratory was built on Lake Opeongo in 1936 and in 1944 a 31½ square mile wildlife research area was set aside on Lake Sasajewun. A Hydro-Electric Power transmission line across the park was started in 1947 and completed in 1950. During 1947 and 1948 Highway #60 was paved. The National Research Council was granted authority to build a radio observatory at Lake Traverse in 1958.

#### PARK USE

#### Present Use

Algonquin Provincial Park is, without question, the best known park in the Ontario provincial park system, and the use statistics confirm its popularity. In 1967, the 90,000 campers who used the park campgrounds exceeded by 50% the number recorded at the next most popular camping park in the province, and represent about 8% of the provincial total of campers. Further evidence of Algonquin's attraction is revealed by the average length of stay figure which, for the park, is 3.1 days and compares with a provincial average of 2.4.

The above camper statistics do not include the 24,000 recorded campers who spent approximately 135,000 trip days in the interior of Algonquin in the same year. It is important to note that, while the interior campers represent only 21% of the total campers, they account for almost 33% of the total camper-days spent in the park.

Camper surveys carried out in 1966 revealed that 75% of the Algonquin campers travelled directly from home to the park and returned directly home afterwards, indicating that Algonquin Park is the kind of place where people go specifically to stay for the duration of their available time, rather than a stopover point on touring trips.

Metropolitan Toronto contributes the greatest number of campers from any one origin area (20%); and Ontario campers as a whole represent 70% of the total with another 27% coming from the United States. Among the interior campers, the



Toronto proportion is about the same (18%), but the number of United States campers increases to well over 50%, which emphasizes the international importance of the park.

Surprisingly, the 1966 survey showed Algonquin campers to be less experienced campers than the Ontario average. This is probably accounted for by the fact that Algonquin is so well known and, therefore, is a logical choice for first-time campers. On the other hand, interior campers are significantly more experienced than the average Ontario camper, as one would expect considering the greater complexity of back-country travel. The most popular camper activities are: Swimming (28%), relaxing (20%), sight-seeing (16%), fishing (15%), hiking (10%) and boating (8%). Water-skiing ranks relatively very low, (0.6%). Among interior trippers, boating and canoeing (35%), relaxing "away from it all" (18%) and swimming (18%) are most popular.

The interpretive program in Algonquin Park is exceedingly popular among both campers and day visitors. In 1967, the museum, exhibits, trails, conducted hikes and evening programs attracted a total attendance of almost 407,000.

Further evidence of Algonquin's popularity comes from the fact that, although the park is over 150 miles from the major urban areas of Ontario, its total visitation figure (campers plus day visitors) was exceeded by only two other provincial parks - Wasaga Beach and Rondeau. A surprising 18% of day visitors were from Metro Toronto in the 1966 visitor survey.

#### Future Use

Algonquin Provincial Park is in a strategic location to serve the growing recreational needs of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence urban corridor. As urbanization continues relentlessly in Southern Ontario, the back-country interior of Algonquin will assume increasingly greater importance as a place where people can find respite from the complexities of modern living.

10



Based primarily upon past camping participation rates, it is estimated that campground use in Algonquin will increase from the 277,000 camper-days experienced in 1967 to approximately 400 - 450,000 in 1975. To accommodate this use without over-using the park campgrounds will require an additional 1,000 campsites in the vicinity of Highway 60. Any campground developments in other sections of the park will generate additional camper use over and above the estimated figure.

During the same period, it is estimated that interior camping will increase from the present 135,000 to about 200,000 tripper-days. This will tend to place a very heavy burden on the popular cance routes unless steps are taken to better distribute this activity.

Total park visitors (day visitors plus campers) are expected to increase to between 700,000 and 800,000 by the year 1975.

#### PRESENT SITUATION

Algonquin Park has been managed since its establishment in 1893 on the principle of multiple use. Because of its recognized importance as a recreational area, and the economic role of the renewable resources of its vast area, the pressures and demands for its various uses have been extensive. Today's patterns of land use and programs for management reflect these pressures and demands and indicate the efforts of the department to utilize effectively the resources of the park within the framework of a changing society.

#### Park Development

Roads - An extensive road system has been built to extract forest products. Public access is limited to a few roads on the periphery of the park and to Highway 60 which crosses the southern part of the park.

Campsites - Campgrounds at Tea Lake Dam, South Tea Lake and Lake of Two Rivers met the need for this activity until



the camping boom in the 1950's. Between 1956 and 1961, camping facilities were rapidly expanded. Present accommodation is for 5,500 campers on 1,376 sites. An additional 300 group campers can be accommodated.

Day Use - Picnickers and hikers can be accommodated at eight day use areas or on eight trails which are conveniently located along Highway 60.

Tourist Accommodation and Services - Four lodges within
the park provide tourist accommodation for 250 persons. Three
of these are accessible via Highway 60 and the fourth is in the
north part of the park accessible by C.N.R. These lodges offer
a variety of activities associated with outdoor recreation.
Two provide a guide service. Two have groceries and supplies
for sale. Four stores and outfitting services are operated
within the park under concession agreements.

Youth Camps - Youth camps have been an integral part of the history of Algonquin. Seven of these camps exist within the park and provide accommodation for 580 boys and 610 girls.

Interpretation - The interpretive program has expanded from a part-time operation in 1942 to an extensive program with a full-time naturalist and eight to ten seasonal assistants. The park museum, opened in 1953, displays and explains the ecology of native flora and fauna. Check lists of native species of birds, mammals, flowers, butterflies, amphibians, reptiles, herbaceous plants, trees and shrubs; are available together with a variety of publications to assist visitors in their appreciation of the environments within the park. An 80 seat auditorium offers daily an audio-visual program. Illustrated talks are given on a regular basis at outdoor theatres. Field trips conducted by a park naturalist are held six days a week. A Pioneer Logging Exhibit helps to acquaint visitors with the early logging era of Algonquin.



Administration - Except for the townships of Bruton and Clyde which are in the Lindsay Forest District, Algonquin Park is administered by the Pembroke District. The responsibility for the management and operation of the various aspects of the department's work is divided among a number of organizational units. The work of Timber Management, Scaling, Forest Protection, Fish and Wildlife, Parks and Lands falls under one of seven Chief Ranger Divisions and Pembroke District Office.

Water Recreation - Recreational patterns in the park reflect the intensive use which is associated with Highway 60 and the more extensive use of the interior portions of the park. Water based recreation continues to play a dominant role in the use of the park's resources. The main forms of such recreation are the following:

- (1) Canoeing Traditional use of the park for canoeing is substantiated by the 135,000 man-days of use made annually of the excellent canoe routes provided by the headwaters of seven water systems. Most popular starting points are Canoe and Opeongo Lakes. These give access to a large number of popular trips and have the added attraction of outfitting services available. Smoke and Cache Lakes and Lake of Two Rivers are adjacent to Highway 60 and are also heavily utilized as jump-off points. Kiosk, Brent and Achray are accessible by public road and offer more challenging canoeing for the experienced tripper.
- (2) Fishing Fishing is one of the most popular recreational pursuits in the park. Activities and consequently fishing pressures are heavily concentrated along Highway 60 and the more popular cance routes.
- (3) Swimming Although swimming is available throughout the park, good bathing beaches are scarce, particularly close to Highway 60 where the demand is heavy.



(4) Boating - Cottagers, commercial operators and campers make heavy use of accessible lakes for the operation of power boats. Sailing is offered by youth camps and lodges:

Sanitary Services - A great variety of water systems throughout the park provides potable water for public use. These systems are being improved each year. New installations are a part of each new development. Sewage, likewise, is taken care of by various means. Comfort stations are provided in the more heavily used areas. Garbage and refuse from public use areas is picked up by a contractor. The interior users cause the greatest concern. Maintenance crews are continually touring the interior campsites and portages to keep this problem under control.

Research - There are three research stations located in the park, because of the large and variable and relatively undisturbed environments in which research work can be most effective. These are the Forestry Research Station at Swan Lake (8,000 acres), The Wildlife Research Station at Sasajewun Lake (34 square miles) and the Fisheries Research Centre and Laboratory at Opeongo Lake.

Other Agencies - A number of other agencies occupy land in Algonquin Park for other than recreational use. These are:

- (1) The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario hold a licence of occupation on 2,652 acres for their 650 KV transmission line from Des Joachims to Burlington, Ontario.
- (2) Canadian National Railways operate the Ottawa-North Bay line through the north-easterly section of the park. Track right-of-way and station reserves total 1,091 acres.
- (3) National Radio Observatory covers 135 acres on Lake Traverse.
- (4) Department of Highways Highway 60 occupies about 740 acres of the park area.



Park Investment - Government investment in buildings, improvements and facilities primarily for the comfort and accommodation of visitors has reached the two million dollar mark.

Annual Operations - If one considers only the parks operation, a consistent deficit of costs over revenue amounting to approximately \$20,000 is evident. However, when timber and fish and wildlife revenues and costs are included, the annual return to the province is about one-third million dollars.

### Park Resources

Land - Although most of the area of Algonquin Park is Crown Land, four other forms of land tenure exist. These are:

- (1) Leases In keeping with policy established in 1954, the department discontinued the leasing of lands and started a program to phase out the existing leases as their term or renewal thereof expired or by purchase, if possible. One hundred and forty three leases have been cancelled or purchased. Three hundred and eighty seven remain, the last of which will expire in 1996.
- (2) Land Use Permits Seventy-seven permits are in force. These are renewable annually.
- (3) Licences of Occupation Twenty of these licences covering cottage sites, houses, and log storage areas exist.
- (4) Patents The townsite of Kiosk consisting of 144 acres is patented to Staniforth Lumber Company. The C.N.R. holds patent to the railway land. Twenty-four small patents exist in Bruton, Clyde and Nightingale Townships and occupy 43 acres.
- (5) Reserves The Wildlife and the Forestry Research Reserves cover a total of 33,035 acres. A number of



Old Pine Reserves were established following 1940 to preserve representative specimens of Red and White Pine.

Fisheries - The Harkness Laboratory of Fisheries Research originated from an agreement between the University of Toronto and the department in 1936. Research at the station has been primarily concerned with brook and lake trout. Fish management has been underway in the park for many years. Recently plantings have been concentrated on those lakes adjacent to public roads. Splake, Kamloops trout, Brown Trout, Arctic Char and Atlantic salmon have been introduced in some lakes. Fishing is closed from mid-October to April.

Wildlife - The facilities at the Sasajewun Lake Wildlife Research Station are available to other recognized research organizations. Research has been carried out on ruffed grouse, marten, fisher, beaver, otter and wolf, and at present studies on deer and bear are underway. The basis of wildlife management is protection. Techniques are being employed to maximize the viewing of wildlife. Trapping is permitted on registered traplines in Bruton and Clyde Townships and in certain townships in the eastern portion of the park. Hunting is permitted in season in Bruton and Clyde Townships.

Forestry - For over a century Algonquin Park has been an important timber producing area. Today, these operations contribute substantially to the economy of many adjacent communities. For example, the park produces seven out of ten red pine poles cut in Ontario and the total volume of sawlogs and poles cut each year in the park is greater than the volume cut in the remainder of Southern Ontario. There are 24 companies operating under the authority of timber licences in the park. These licences cover about 2,233 square miles of area. The annual production includes 72,307 M f.b.m. of sawlogs and veneer, 440,000 cu. ft. red and jack pine poles, and 52,400 cords pulpwood. Crown timber charges, ground rent and



fire tax for the year 1965-66 totalled \$865,853.00. Cutting reservations along public roads, along the shores of waterways, on each side of portages, on each side of the park boundary, on islands and special reserves are designated to protect the aesthetic qualities of these areas. The maintenance of the timber resource and therefore of the economy of this section of the province is largely dependent upon silvicultural and protection operations which are carried out. Ironically, 62% of the fires in the park are caused by recreationists.

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#### PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

#### PURPOSE

The primary purpose of Algonquin Provincial Park is to provide the people of Ontario with an area of outstanding natural beauty for their recreational use, enjoyment, inspiration and education. The renewable natural resources of the park will be managed to maintain and improve the recreational environment and for other resource uses in keeping with the primary purpose.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- (1) To manage and protect the many environments of Algonquin Provincial Park for the primary purpose of public outdoor recreation.
- (2) To provide, in the interior of the park, the opportunity for visitors to enjoy a recreational experience as free as possible from the sights and sounds of civilization.
- (3) To promote the use and enjoyment of the recreational resources and facilities of the park, while ensuring that the kind and volume of such use does not impair the quality of the park or the recreational experience of the visitor.
- (4) To make available, to each park visitor, the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of the environment and history of the park.
- (5) To provide an outdoor laboratory for research and education.
- (6) To manage the renewable natural resources of the park for the optimum social and economic benefit compatible with the primary purpose of the park.
- (7) To maintain the primitive character of the park by preserving representative segments of natural landscapes.
- (8) To designate and protect significant natural, scenic and historical features of the park.

#### POLICY

Policy is the means by which the purpose and objectives for Algonquin Provincial Park are achieved.



### PARK ZONING

In accordance with the Provincial Parks Act, the park will be zoned to ensure the effective management and orderly development of park lands. The zones and the policies relating to each zone area as set out hereunder.

## Multiple Use Zone

The purpose of the Multiple Use Zone is to provide an opportunity for low intensity recreation activities in an area where recreation is recognized as the primary use, but in which other resources are managed and utilized in a manner compatible with recreation.

Multiple Use Zones - M1 - M5 (448,000 acres)

Logging:

A no-cut shoreline reservation of 500 will be established on lakes, rivers and streams; and a 500 no-cut reservation will be established on each side of all portages. All timber to be harvested will be marked by the Department. No logging will be permitted during July and August. All existing timber licences will be terminated during the period up to March 31, 1979, and thereafter all timber allocation will be by volume agreement. All roads will be located by the Department and no road construction will be undertaken during July and August. By April 1st, 1979, the responsibility for planning, constructing and maintaining all main roads in the park will be assumed

Roads:

Mechanized Equipment:

No mechanized equipment will be permitted in these zones during July and August except as authorized by the Park Superintendent.

by the Department.



Motorboats:

No motorboats will be permitted in these zones at any time of the year, except on Opeongo Lake where unlimited power motorboats may be used up to March 31, 1975, after which date motorboats of up to 10 H.P. may be used.

Water-Skiing:

No water-skiing will be permitted.

Angling:

Angling will be permitted in accordance

with the Fisheries Regulations.

Hunting:

Hunting will not be permitted any time.

Trapping:

Trapping will not be permitted at any time.

Multiple Use Zone - M6 (1,175,000 acres)

Logging:

A shoreline reservation of 500% will be established on lakes, rivers and streams within which marked timber may be cut in that part of the reserve more than 100% from the shore. A 500% reservation will be established on each side of all portages within which marked timber may be cut no closer than 200% to the portage. No logging operations will be permitted during July and August.

Roads:

The location of all roads will be approved by the Park Superintendent. No No road construction will be undertaken during July and August.

Mechanized Equipment:

No mechanized equipment will be permitted in this zone during July and August except as authorized by the Park Superintendent.

Unlimited power motorboats will be per-

Motorboats:

mitted on lakes on which are located patented or leased lands. Elsewhere, motorboats of up to 10 H.P. will be permitted except during July and August when

no motorboats will be allowed.



Water-skiing: Water-skiing will be permitted only on

lakes on which there are patents or leases.

Angling: Angling will be permitted in accordance

with the Fisheries Regulations.

Hunting: No hunting will be permitted except in

the Townships of Bruton and Clyde.

Trapping: Trapping will be permitted on licenced

trap-lines.

N.B. - These policies also apply to the Swan Lake Forest Research Area.

### Primitive Zone

The purpose of the Primitive Zone is to set aside representative areas of natural landscapes of scenic quality for posterity and to provide an opportunity to enrich and expand the outdoor knowledge and recreational experience of park visitors in natural wild conditions, and to provide an outdoor laboratory for non-destructive scientific study. Expanded areas of primitive zone are anticipated.

Primitive Zones - Pl - P4 (84,000 acres)

Logging: No logging will be permitted.

Roads: No roads will be permitted.

Mechanized Equipment: No mechanized equipment will be permitted.

Motorboats: No motorboats will be permitted.

Angling: Angling will be permitted in accordance

with the Fisheries Regulations.

Hunting: Hunting will not be permitted at any time.

Trapping: Trapping will not be permitted at any time.

### Recreation Zone

The purpose of the Recreation Zone is to designate and protect those lands on which present and future formal facilities and services are provided for intensive and moderately intensive public recreational use.



# Recreation Zones - R1 - R6 (138,000 acres)

Logging:

A t mile reservation will be established around all present or planned recreational development areas including adjacent waters. These reservations will be deleted from existing timber licences. In addition, a 500 no-cut reservation will be established on all other lakes, rivers, and streams. Logging on the balance of lands within these zones will be restricted to marked timber and will not be permitted during July and August. All roads will be located by the

Roads:

Department and no roads will be built during July and August.

Mechanized Equipment: No use of mechanized equipment will be permitted during July and August except as authorized by the Park Superintendent. Unlimited power motorboats will be per-

Motorboats:

mitted on lakes where leases or patents exist. In the balance of the zones, motorboats will be limited to not more than 10 H.P. except during July and August when no motorboats will be permitted.

N.B. - Unlimited power motorboats may be used in Lake of Two Rivers at any time.

Water-skiing:

Water-skiing will be permitted only on those lakes with leases or patents and on Lake of Two Rivers.

Angling:

Angling will be permitted in accordance with the Fisheries Regulations.

No hunting will be permitted at any time.

Hunting: Trapping:

No trapping will be permitted at any time.



### Natural Zone

The purpose of the Natural Zone is to set aside for public education and recreation unique natural areas such as lookout points, biological, physiographic and geological phenomena, (e.g. water falls, forest stands, etc.). Areas in this zone may also be set aside exclusively for scientific study. Acceptable recreation uses include nature study, recording (e.g. photography), viewing and walking. Natural Zones will include a buffer zone around the resource to be protected.

Natural Zones - N1 - N25 (15,000 acres)

Logging: No commercial operations will be per-

mitted. Cultural operations required for

the management of any zone will be conduc-

ted by the Department.

Roads: No roads will be permitted except where

necessary for management and such roads will be planned, constructed, and main-

tained by the Department.

Mechanized Equipment: The use of mechanized equipment will be

in accordance with the policy for the

adjacent or surrounding zone.

Motorboats: The use of motorboats will be in

accordance with the policy for the

adjacent or surrounding zone.

Water-skiing: Water-skiing will not be permitted.

Angling: Angling will be permitted in accordance

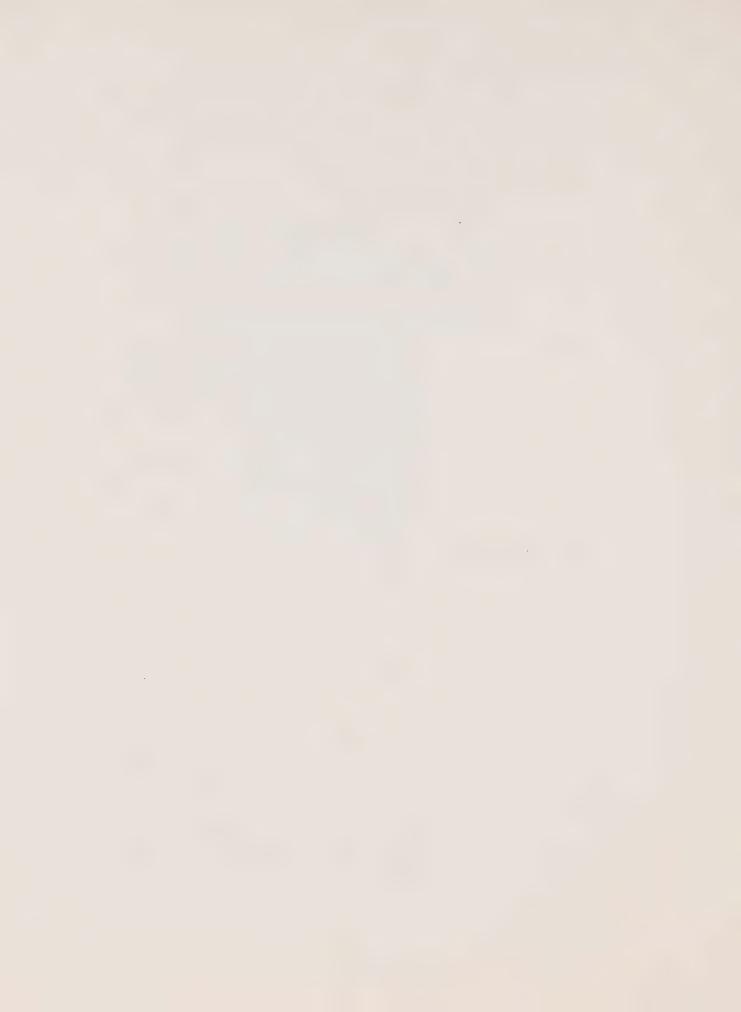
with the Fisheries Regulations.

Hunting: No hunting will be permitted except in

Bruton and Clyde Townships (N24).

Trapping: Trapping will be permitted on licenced

traplines.



### Historic Zone

The purpose of the Historic Zone is to protect sites of historic significance from incompatible use and development. Historic Zones will include a buffer zone around the resource to be protected.

Historic Zones - Hl - HlO (2,500 acres)

Logging: No commercial operations will be permitted.

Cultural operations required for the

management of any zone will be conducted

by the Department.

Roads: No roads will be permitted except where

necessary for management and such roads will be planned, constructed, and main-

tained by the Department.

Mechanized Equipment: The use of mechanized equipment will be

in accordance with the policy for the

adjacent or surrounding zone.

Motorboats: The use of motorboats will be in

accordance with the policy for the

adjacent or surrounding zone.

Water-skiing: Water-skiing will not be permitted.

Angling: Angling will be permitted in accordance

with the Fisheries Regulations.

Hunting: No hunting will be permitted except in

Bruton and Clyde Townships.

Trapping: Trapping will be permitted on licenced

traplines.

#### GENERAL POLICY STATEMENTS

The policy restrictions designated for the park zones will not apply to the administration and protection operations of the Department.

#### Forestry

(1) Timber Management Plans - Timber in the park will be managed under Timber Management Plans which are in accord with



the Algonquin Park Master Plan. It is recognized that good timber management must be an integral part of park management to achieve satisfactory stand renewal and to ensure the maintenance of the aesthetic qualities of the park.

- (2) All no-cut reservations will be managed by the Department to maintain the recreational values of the reservations.
- (3) As stated above (under Multiple Use Zone) all existing timber licences will be terminated during the period up to March 31, 1979 and thereafter all timber allocation will be by volume agreement.

### Roads

- (1) As stated above (under Multiple Use Zone), by April 1st, 1979, the responsibility for planning, constructing and maintaining all main roads in the park will be assumed by the Department.
- (2) Road location will be in accordance with the policies established for each zone.
- (3) The Department will establish road construction and maintenance specifications which will protect the recreational values of the park.
- (4) The public is not permitted to use motor vehicles on park roads which have been constructed for non-recreational purposes. On these roads, the use of motor vehicles will be restricted to:
  - (a) persons engaged in the business of an employer with authority to operate in the park,
  - (b) persons engaged in authorized management and research activities.

# Motorboats on Boundary Lakes

The policies stated under "Park Zoning" do not apply to



some lakes which are not entirely within the park. However, these policies do apply to all connecting waters which are within the park boundary.

# Fish and Wildlife

- (1) Fisheries management in the park will be directed toward providing for all park visitors the maximum opportunity to angle by diverse methods for a variety of species throughout the open season.
- (2) A fisheries management plan will be prepared which will establish management priorities based on kind and intensity of use.
- (3) A wildlife management plan will be prepared for the park. This plan will recognize that the opportunity to view wildlife is an important element in the recreational experience of the park visitor.

### Research

- (1) Opportunities will be provided for research which is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the park.
- (2) In respect of the Algonquin Radio Observatory, no additional developments will be permitted except in accordance with the terms and conditions of Bill 107.

### Snowmobiles

The use of snowmobiles will be permitted in the park

- (1) for the administrative and research requirements of the Department,
  - (2) by trappers on registered traplines; and
- (3) by the public in recreation zones in areas and under conditions authorized by the Park Superintendent.

### Aircraft

(1) Kioshkokwi and Smoke Lakes will be the only lakes licenced under The Aeronautics Act (Canada) for float aircraft landings.



- (2) All other float aircraft landings will be restricted to genuine emergencies and, wherever feasible, will have the prior approval of the Park Superintendent.
- (3) The Lake of Two Rivers airstrip will continue to be available for the use of aircraft equipped with wheels or skis.

## Military Exercises

No military exercises will be permitted which are not in keeping with the purpose and objectives of the park, and prior authorization for such exercise must be obtained from the Park Superintendent.

### Utility Lines

- (1) No new transmission or pipelines will be permitted anywhere in the park.
- (2) The location of all new hydro distribution and telephone lines will be approved by the Park Superintendent.
- (3) Where required by the Department, hydro distribution lines and telephone lines in the park will be buried.
- (4) The use of herbicides will be restricted to the nonleaf period of the year.

#### Structures

- (1) No new permanent establishments will be permitted except those required by the Department for park operation and research.
- (2) When it is feasible, existing permanent establishments will be removed from the park by the owner. This does not include establishments required by the Department for park operation and research.
- (3) The location of all temporary structures will be approved by the Park Superintendent.
- (4) All authorized temporary structures will be removed or destroyed by the owner when no longer required. In addition, the owner will restore the site as near as possible to a natural condition.



### Insecticides

The use of insecticides will be restricted to those chemicals approved by the department.

## Mining

Mining in the park will be restricted in accordance with the Provincial Parks Act.

## Leases, Licences of Occupation and Cottages on Private Land

(1) New Leases

No new leases, licences of occupation or permits will be granted for private, public or commercial purposes. All the applications are to be declined and returned to the applicants.

- Subsisting Leases
  - (a) Any subsisting lease for land on which improvements have been erected will be permitted to carry on during the term of the lease including the renewal period where applicable, unless such land is required for the purposes of the department.
  - (b) Upon the expiry of any lease, the lessee relinquishes all rights to the improvements thereon.
  - (c) In the case of any lease on which no improvements have been erected, the lessee will be given an opportunity to build according to a plan and specification approved by the Superintendent; if the lessee does not wish to avail himself of the opportunity to so build, the Crown will take back the lease.
- (3) Assignment of Leases
  - (a) Approval will not be given to the assignment of any lease covering land on which no cottage has been erected, and the procedure outlined in paragraph 2(b) above pertains.



- (b) Where application is made to approve the assignments of a lease covering land on which a cottage or lodge has been erected, the Crown reserves the option to acquire the lease. This does not apply to any assignment between husband and wife and any child of either of them, or to any assignment required to give effect to a devise under a will.
- (4) Licences of Occupation
  All Licences of Occupation covering cottages will expire on March 31, 1988.
- (5) Cottages on Private Land

  Cottages on private land in Clyde and Bruton Townships will be acquired whenever possible.

### Public Recreation Development

(1) Campgrounds and Picnic Sites

Existing campgrounds and picnic sites will be improved or relocated, and new recreation complexes will be developed in accordance with a detailed development plan consistent with the carrying capacity of the park.

- (2) Trails
  - (a) Walking, hiking, horseback riding, snowshoeing, and skiing trails may be developed in any zone. Bicycle trails may be established in the Recreation Zones and in Multiple Use Zone M6.
  - (b) Overnight shelters may be developed.
  - (c) No-cut reservations will be established in each zone in accordance with those previously stipulated for portages.
- (3) Visitor Services
  - (a) Visitor services including outfitting supplies, accommodation, meals and so on will be provided under concession agreement in Recreation Zones



where feasible and required.

(b) Information services will be provided where required.

## Park Interpretive Programme

The park interpretive programme will be continued and improved to promote in park visitors an appreciation of park features and the inspirational enjoyment of nature.

### Park Use

Having regard for the unique character of the park and the objective to ensure a high quality recreational experience, the number of visitors may be limited in order to preserve these values.

### Sanitation

Water, sanitary and garbage disposal facilities will be provided as required to protect the health and ensure the safety of park visitors.

### Park Boundary Changes

Where required to achieve the purposes and objectives of the park, additional lands will be added to the park from time to time.

### Archives

A set of archives for the park will be established and maintained in the park.

### Canoe Route Plan

A canoe route operating plan will be prepared to provide for the best use and maintenance of canoe routes.

### Unattended Watercraft

Watercraft may be left unattended in locations designated by the Park Superintendent in any Recreation Zone from the first day of April to the 20th day of June in any year.

No watercraft may be left unattended in any other part of the park.

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# Master Plan Revision

A major revision of the Algonquin Provincial Park Master Plan will be completed by 1975. In the interim period, there will be a continuing input of new and refined information to maximize the effectiveness of the plan.

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### GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The following is a summary of the important elements of the proposed development program for Algonquin Provincial Park.

## Camping Areas

In order to accommodate the increasing number of campers visiting the park, additional campgrounds will be constructed.

Along Highway 60 some of the present campgrounds will be redesigned and approximately 1,000 new campsites will be provided in the Whitefish Lake - Rock Lake area.

In addition, a number of new camping areas will be developed around the park perimeter. These will be constructed in recreation zones over the next 5 to 10 years, and their location and approximate capacity will be:

(1)	Grand Lake	Zone R 3	200	campsites
(2)	North Tea Lake	Zone R 2	300	campsites
(3)	Radiant Lake	Zone R 5	200	campsites
(4)	Rain Lake	Zone R 6	100	campsites
(5)	Shirley Lake	Zone R 4	200	campsites

These new camping areas will also include day use facilities such as picnic grounds, boat ramps and trails.

# Day Use Areas

Additional day use areas will be required to serve an increasing number of day visitors to the park. To augment the facilities which are now in existence and those which are provided in conjunction with camping areas, it will be necessary to initiate a number of new developments. These will be located in Recreation Zone R 1 in the vicinity of Highway 60.

Current plans include the following:

- (1) Conversion of the Tea Lake campground to a day use area,
- (2) A new day use area on the east side of Kearney Lake; and
- (3) A new day use area on Costello or Brewer Lake. 32



New walking, hiking and riding trails will also be established as required to serve day visitors and campers.

#### Canoeing Areas

A canoe route operating plan will be prepared to guide the management and development of canoe routes in the park. This plan will include the following:

- (1) A program of new cance route development which will aim at achieving a better distribution of cance tripper use in the park,
- (2) Provision for the establishment of a canoe ranger patrol which will maintain existing canoe routes, develop and maintain new canoe routes and advise and assist canoe trippers,
- (3) Plans for the establishment of canoe tripper information centres which will be integrated with the park interpretive program, and
- (4) Provision for controlling the volume and location of canoe route travel in order to ensure that the canoe tripper may enjoy a high quality recreational experience.

#### Roads

The following road construction specifications will apply to all roads to be built in the park:

Type of Road	Right-of-Way Clearing	Travel Surface
Main access roads	66 9	22†
Secondary access	45*	201
Internal haul roads	331	18†
Roads crossing timber reserves on portages lakes, rivers, roads etc.	3,	14 *

All rights-of-way are to be cut prior to bulldozing, and all merchantable timber salvaged.

All slash on main access roads and crossings through timber reserves is to be lopped in such a way that no portion of the slash is greater than 18" off the ground.



The above widths are maximum and under certain circumstances the Park Superintendent may require that they be decreased.

The department, when it considers a park road no longer needed, will breach it to prevent further use by motor vehicles. The department may also reforest all or parts of such roads.

## Park Interpretive Services

A detailed interpretive plan for the park is now being prepared and, when completed, will form part of the Algonquin Provincial Park Master Plan.

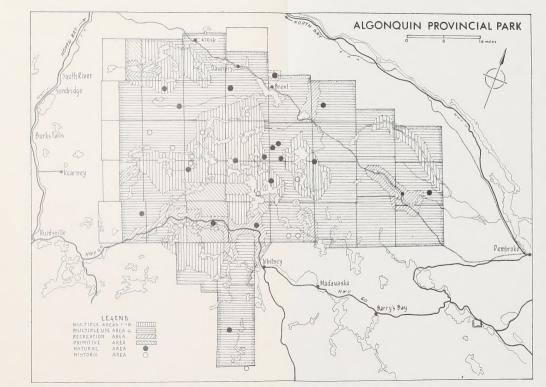
The interpretive plan will set forth the objectives of the park interpretation services which will be consistent with the objectives of the master plan. It will also expand upon the pattern of visitor use through the selection of interpretive areas such as scenic vistas, roadways, trails or demonstration areas.

It will indicate what interpretive media will be utilized to enrich each park visitor's understanding and appreciation of the environment, history and management of Algonquin Park.

The interpretive plan will also include provision for general visitor information services.

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